

## **Hall of Fame Induction of Dick Davis – March 8, 2019**

Today, all of us from Avon Park feel it is a great honor and privilege to present our best friend, our best teacher, our big brother, Dick Davis, for induction into the FSA's Central District Hall of Fame for his Outstanding Contributions to our sport.

Dick was born and raised in New Sharon, Maine. He is now a retired dairy farmer. Dick has two sons, Richard, Jr. and James and a daughter, Rebecca.

Dick has been a member of our Club for over 30 years. In addition to just paying his dues, he has worked tirelessly contributing thousands of hours to the general operation and overall maintenance of our Club. It would be impossible to say how many times he has pressure-washed our courts, swept the courts, beaded the courts, waxed our discs, painted our fixtures, cleaned our bath rooms, changed our light bulbs, mopped our floors, and willingly volunteered his time to our many and various projects. Additionally, Dick is a Past President and longtime member of our Board of Directors.

Dick is a very able Shuffler; he is presently celebrating his 89<sup>th</sup> year of life by finishing “In the Main” in every State and District Tournament he has entered this year! Due to constraints of health, Dick has not been traveling to out of town tournaments for the past few years.

Dick established The Annual George & Clara Davis Memorial Tournament years ago and has personally funded it every year since its inception. This continues to be a major annual event not only for Avon Park, but also draws participants from all over the entire Central District and the State. This tournament has been, and will be, held every year on the day after Thanksgiving and is open to everyone. The friendships that he has enabled are countless.

But, Dick's greatest contribution to our Sport is his genuine interest in newcomers who show even the slightest interest in Shuffling. Many shufflers say that Dick is the reason they felt encouraged enough to make a second visit to the courts. Literally, hundreds of shufflers are proud to say that Dick is/was their Instructor, their Teacher, their Mentor, or their Big Brother in our Sport.

Dick is our Official Club Instructor. He comes by it very honestly; he is actually a second generation shuffleboard instructor. His Father & Mother were very active members of our Club more than 50 years ago and they may have welcomed and encouraged 1000 people to get into our game.

It is not very difficult to realize the total positive impact that Dick Davis has had upon the Sport of Shuffleboard. You start to get the idea when you hear shufflers across the Central District tell their own stories about their positive interactions with Dick. You get even more of an understanding when you hear of this from players across the United States and Canada who have ever played in Florida.

Dick is the embodiment of our “Hall of Fame” ; his genuine love of this sport, his interest in helping new players, his willingness to help all players, his efforts to promote our sport, and his friendly nature have made him a True Ambassador of our sport.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Tom Clayton